

CONTENTS

List of boxes	x
Preface	xi

1 Performance	1
<i>Playing</i>	1
<i>Performance, performative, performativity</i>	2
<i>Performing identity</i>	8
<i>All the world's a stage</i>	10
<i>Reading performance</i>	13
<i>Theatre and performance</i>	17
<i>Summary</i>	19
<i>Further reading</i>	19
2 The text	21
<i>Text and texts</i>	21
<i>Playwrights and writers of plays</i>	23
<i>The play text</i>	27
<i>Dramatic structures</i>	33
<i>Devising</i>	36
<i>Summary</i>	40
<i>Further reading</i>	40

3	Dramatic form	42
	<i>Tragedy</i>	42
	<i>Comedy</i>	50
	<i>Tragicomedy</i>	56
	<i>Epic</i>	58
	<i>Documentary and agitprop</i>	62
	<i>Farce</i>	64
	<i>Melodrama</i>	65
	<i>The well-made play</i>	66
	<i>Dramatic form deconstructed</i>	66
	<i>Digital performance</i>	68
	<i>Postdramatic theatre</i>	70
	<i>Summary</i>	71
	<i>Further reading</i>	72
4	Theatre and history	74
	<i>The necessity of history</i>	74
	<i>Historical evidence</i>	83
	<i>Drama and society</i>	90
	<i>Summary</i>	102
	<i>Further reading</i>	103
5	Acting	105
	<i>A body in space</i>	105
	<i>The paradox of acting</i>	108
	<i>Realism in acting</i>	110
	<i>Creativity and tradition</i>	116
	<i>Alienation</i>	121
	<i>Acting in the holy theatre</i>	124
	<i>The mastery of movement</i>	127
	<i>Speaking a text</i>	128
	<i>Summary</i>	130
	<i>Further reading</i>	130
6	Directing	132
	<i>Historical</i>	132
	<i>The great directors</i>	134
	<i>The contemporary director</i>	139
	<i>First tasks</i>	142

<i>Before rehearsals</i>	145
<i>Rehearsals</i>	148
<i>The last lap</i>	156
<i>Summary</i>	159
<i>Further reading</i>	159
7 Scenography	161
<i>Theatre architecture</i>	161
<i>Design and scenography</i>	165
<i>Stage design</i>	166
<i>On stage</i>	168
<i>LX – stage lighting</i>	170
<i>Running the show</i>	172
<i>Theatre beyond theatre</i>	176
<i>Summary</i>	179
<i>Further reading</i>	179
8 The audience	181
<i>The drama's patrons</i>	181
<i>The horizon of expectation</i>	183
<i>The theatrical event</i>	185
<i>Conventions</i>	190
<i>Audience and performance</i>	194
<i>Summary</i>	195
<i>Further reading</i>	195
 Glossary	 196
Bibliography	201
Index	203